

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of generating events having a common event format, comprising:
 - obtaining a populated common base event including source specific situation information for an event source;
 - determining if a format of the populated common base event conforms to a predefined event format; and
 - generating a common event format representation of the populated common base event based on the predefined event format if the format of the populated common base event does not conform to the predefined event format.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein obtaining the populated common base event comprises obtaining the populated common base event from the event source and wherein obtaining the common base event is preceded by the event source:
 - 15 obtaining a common base event associated with a content handler, wherein the predefined event format is defined by the content handler; and
 - populating the common base event with source specific situation information to provide the populated common base event.
- 20 3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the source specific situation information is provided in a plurality of event fields and wherein generating a common event format representation of the populated common base event comprises:
 - determining if ones of the plurality of event fields conform to the predefined event format defined by the content handler;
 - 25 modifying the format of the ones of the plurality of event fields that do not conform to the predefined event format;
 - determining if ones of the plurality of event fields are empty; and
 - populating the empty ones of the plurality of event fields with source specific situation information based on the predefined event format.

4. The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
 - providing the common event format representation of the populated common base event to an event server; and
5. storing the common event format representation of the populated common base event in a data store at the event server.

5. The method of Claim 4, further comprising:

- querying the event server to obtain status information of a system associated
- 10 with the event source based on the stored common event format representation of the populated common base event.

6. The method of Claim 2, wherein obtaining the common base event is preceded by associating an event factory with a directory service.

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7. The method of Claim 6, wherein associating the event factory is followed by:
 - locating the event factory using the directory service;
 - associating the content handler with the event factory; and
 - 20 returning the common base event incorporated in the associated content handler from the event factory to the event source.

8. The method of Claim 6, wherein the directory service comprises a Java Naming and Directory (JNDI) service.

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9. The method of Claim 1, wherein obtaining is followed by requesting that the content handler modify the populated common base event based on the predefined event format.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the populated common base event comprises a date and/or time stamp, a situation type, an identity of the event source and/or an identity of a component reporting the situation type.

5 11. The method of Claim 1, wherein generating comprises automatically generating a common event format representation of the populated common base event based on the predefined event format.

12. A system for generating events having a common event format,
10 comprising:

an event source configured to obtain an instance of a common base event object and populate the common base event object with source specific situation information, the instance of the common base event object incorporating a content handler module; and

15 an event emitter module configured to utilize the content handler module of the populated common base event object to generate a common event format representation of the populated common base event object and provide the common event format representation of the populated common base event object to an event server.

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13. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an event factory module configured to generate instances of the common base event object.

14. The system of Claim 12, wherein the source specific situation
25 information is provided in a plurality of event fields and wherein the content handler module is further configured to:

determine if ones of the plurality of event fields conform to a predefined event format defined by the content handler module;

modify the format of the ones of the plurality of event fields that do not

conform to the predefined event format;
determine if ones of the plurality of event fields are empty; and
populate the empty ones of the plurality of event fields with source specific
situation information based on the predefined event format.

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15. The system of Claim 12, wherein the event server is further
configured to store the common event format representation of the populated common
base event object in a data store at the event server.

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16. The system of Claim 15, further comprising a consumer module
configured to query the event server to obtain status information of the system based
on the stored common event format representation of the populated common base
event object.

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17. The system of Claim 13, wherein the event source is further
configured to locate the event factory module using a directory service and wherein the
event factory module is further configured to associate the content handler module
with the event factory module and return the common base event object incorporated
in the associated content handler module to the event source.

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18. The system of Claim 17, wherein the directory service comprises a
Java Naming and Directory (JNDI) service.

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19. The system of Claim 12, wherein the populated common base event
object comprises a date and/or time stamp, a situation type, an identity of the event
source and/or an identity of a component reporting the situation type.

20. A system for generating events having a common event format, comprising:

means for obtaining a populated common base event including source specific situation information for an event source;

5 means for determining if a format of the populated common base event conforms to a predefined event format; and

means for generating a common event format representation of the populated common base event based on the predefined event format if the format of the populated common base event does not conform to the predefined event format.

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21. A computer program product for generating events having a common event format, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program code comprising:

15 computer readable program code configured to obtain a populated common base event including source specific situation information for an event source;

computer readable program code configured to determine if a format of the populated common base event conforms to a predefined event format; and

20 computer readable program code configured to generate a common event format representation of the populated common base event based on the predefined event format if the format of the populated common base event does not conform to the predefined event format.

22. The computer program product of Claim 21, wherein the computer readable program code configured to obtain the populated common base event comprises computer readable program code configured to obtain the populated common base event from the event source, the computer program product further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to obtain a common base event

associated with a content handler, wherein the predefined event format is defined by the content handler; and

computer readable program code configured to populate the common base event with source specific situation information to provide the populated common

5 base event.

23. The computer program product of Claim 22, wherein the source specific situation information is provided in a plurality of event fields and wherein the computer readable program code configured to generate a common event format

10 representation of the populated common base event comprises:

computer readable program code configured to determine if ones of the plurality of event fields conform to the predefined event format defined by the content handler;

computer readable program code configured to modify the format of the ones 15 of the plurality of event fields that do not conform to the predefined event format;

computer readable program code configured to determine if ones of the plurality of event fields are empty; and

computer readable program code configured to populate the empty ones of the plurality of event fields with source specific situation information based on the

20 predefined event format.

24. The computer program product of Claim 23, further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to provide the common event format representation of the populated common base event to an event server; and

25 computer readable program code configured to store the common event format representation of the populated common base event in a data store at the event server.

25. The computer program product of Claim 24, further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to query the event server to obtain

status information of a system associated with the event source based on the stored common event format representation of the populated common base event.

26. The computer program product of Claim 21, further comprising
5 computer readable program code configured to associate an event factory with a directory service.

27. The computer program product of Claim 26, further comprising:
computer readable program code configured to locate the event factory using
10 the directory service;
computer readable program code configured to associate the content handler with the event factory; and
computer readable program code configured to return the common base event incorporated in the associated content handler from the event factory to the event
15 source.

28. The computer program product of Claim 20, further comprising
computer readable program code configured to request that the content handler modify the populated common base event based on the predefined event format.

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29. The computer program product of Claim 21, wherein the populated common base event comprises a date and/or time stamp, a situation type, an identity of the event source and/or an identity of a component reporting the situation type.

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30. The computer program product of Claim 21, wherein the computer readable program code configured to generate comprises computer readable program code configured to automatically generate a common event format representation of the populated common base event based on the predefined event format.